

Remarks

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 30, 2004.

Per the above amendment, claims 1-6, 8-13, 15, 16, 19, and 20 have been amended.

The feature of the claimed inventions is that a second-key signal representative of a second key is generated on the basis of initial-value information of a given initial value according to one selected from a plurality of predetermined key generation algorithms, and that algorithm identification information is for identifying the one selected from the plurality of predetermined key generation algorithms.

As recognized by the Examiner, Eyer et al (US Patent 5,485,577) do not teach initial-value information and algorithm identification information. Thus, Eyer et al do not teach the above-mentioned feature of the claimed inventions.

In Funakoshi et al (US Patent 6,401,207), an authentication key generating portion generates an authentication key by encoding the seed in accordance with a predetermined algorithm (column 2, lines 65-66). Specifically, an authentication key generating portion 15 encodes the seed SEED in accordance with a predetermined encoding algorithm to generate an authentication key KEYCHK (column 6, lines 9-13).

According to Funakoshi et al, column 8, lines 9-36, the data SEED is representative of a random number.

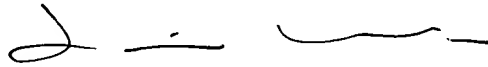
Therefore, Funakoshi et al fail to teach the selection of one from a plurality of predetermined key generation algorithms. Furthermore, Funakoshi et al fail to teach algorithm identification information for identifying the one selected from the plurality of

predetermined key generation algorithms. Thus, Funakoshi et al do not teach the above-mentioned feature of the claimed inventions.

Neither litsuka et al (US Patent 6,463,151) nor Jansen et al (US Patent 6, 587, 562) teach the above-mentioned feature of the claimed inventions.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentable over Eyer et al, Funakoshi et al, litsuka et al, and Jansen et al.

Respectfully submitted,



Louis Woo, RN 31,730
Law Offices of Louis Woo
717 North Fayette Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 299-4090

Date: Oct 29, 2004